THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As on date, foreign private companies have shown interest to set up 33 power projects for 21289 MW costing Rs. 69471 crores.

POWER SHORTAGE

2668. SHRI DAVID LEDGER : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of overall power shortage in the country during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for such shortage; and

(c) what are the steps Government propose to take to increase the generation capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) During the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, the overall percentage of energy shortage in the country was 7.9 per cent, 7.8 per cent and 8.3 per cent respectively.

(b) The main reasons for power shortage in the country were growth in demand out-stripping the growth in generation of power, constraints of funds with power utilities for capacity addition as well as for undertaking Renovation and Modernisation programme, unsatisfactory performance of some thermal power stations and Atomic Power Stations etc.

(c) In order to increase the generating capacity in the country, it is envisaged to add 30558 MW capacity during the 8th Plan. Various other measures being taken to improve the generation in the country from the existing plants include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, assistance to Electricity Boards in undertaking Plant. Betterment Programme supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal and natural gas, training of operation and maintenance personnel, strengthening of transmission and distribution system.

BIDS FOR VINDHYACHAL EXTENSION PROJECT

2669. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

SHRI PRAMOD MOHAJAN : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has changed its qualifying requirements for bidders for boiler contract of Rs. 1500 crores for Vindhyachal Extension Project to accommodate Italian Power Utiliy Anasaldo and ACC Babcock Ltd.;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for relaxation of conditions of eligibility to these two parties to enable them to bid for the contract; and

(c) the number of bids received so far from Indian and foreign parties and what are the names and details of such parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) Vindhyachal Extension is a World Bank financed project and Qualification requirements for it were to be fixed in consultation with the Bank. It was represented to the Bank that NTPC's Qualification requirement would exclude certain bidders. In order to generate competition, NTPC agreed with the World Bank to modify its Qualification requirements.

(c) Bids have been received for boiler from the following parties.

Indian Parties:

(i) M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.

(ii) M/s ACC Babcock Ltd., India in Joint Venture with Foster Wheeler Engineering Corpn. USA.

Foreign Parties:

(i) International Combustion Ltd., UK.

(ii) Ansaldo GIE, Italy

POWER SHORTAGE IN HARYANA AND UTTAR PRADESH

2670. DR. SANJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of acute shortage of power in the State of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, if so, what are the details of consumption and demand of power for industries and Agriculture in those states; and

(b) what steps have been taken/proposed to be taken to meet the demand and by when these States are likely to become self-sufficient in this field ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) During the period April, 1993—November, 1993, the energy shortage in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh was 7.9 per cent and 10.2 per cent respectively as against the all-India average shortage of 7.4 per cent. Power supply to various categories of consumers including industrial and agricultural sectors is within the authority of the State Govt./State Electricity Boards.

(b) Various measures are being taken to improve the availability of power in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh which include maximising generation from the existing generating stations, implementation of Renovation and modernisation programme, reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures and assistance from neighbouring States and systems, allocation of power from unallocated output of Central Sector Stations in the Northern Region.

PROPOSAL TO SET UP POWER TRANSMISSION LINES

2671. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation of India has proposed to set up 800 KV power transmission lines between Kishanpur in J&K and Moga in Punjab;

(b) whether World Bank's assistance has been sought for this project;

(c) whether the World Bank has expressed some doubts regarding the cost of the project and suggested its deferment; and

(d) if so, what action Government are taking to proceed with the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The Government has sanctioned construction of 800 KV single circuit transmission lines between Kishanpur in J&K and Moga in Punjab. The line is to be charged on 400 kv in the initial stage.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The World Bank had suggested to study and accept, if feasible an alternative line design of 400 kv, which could be upgraded 800 kv at a later date which the Bank felt, might be economical. The suggestion was examined by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (Powergrid) in consultation with its consultants. They opined that the original proposal was advantageous as compared to World Bank proposal. It has been decided to retain the orginal proposal.

PRIVATE SECTOR POWER PROJECTS

2672. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state;